

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 THE HA 02699 291114Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 MC-02

ACDA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAJ-01

/089 W

----- 105086

R 291024Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5997

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 2699

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NL

SUBJECT: CHOICE OF F-16 REKINDLES DISSENSION WITHIN  
LABOR PARTY

1. ANNOUNCEMENT THAT DUTCH CABINET HAD DECIDED TO  
PURCHASE F-16 FIGHER AIRCRAFT, PROVIDED OTHER THREE  
CONSORTIUM MEMBERS ALSO DO SO, HAS REKINDLED FEUD  
BETWEEN DEFENSE MINISTER VREDELING AND HIS LABOR PARTY  
COLLEAGUES IN PARLIAMENT. (VREDELING HAS MADE IT CLEAR  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 THE HA 02699 291114Z

THAT DECISION IS CONTINGENT ON ALL OTHER MEMBERS OF

CONSORTIUM CHOOSING SAME AIRCRAFT. IF THE BELGIANS DO NOT DO SO, THE DUTCH WILL MAKE COMPLETE REVIEW OF MATTER.)

2. LABOR PARLIAMENTARY LEADER VAN THIJN AND THE LABOR DEFENSE SPECIALIST IN PARLIAMENT, DANKERT, HAVE BOTH PUBLICLY ATTACKED THE DECISION WHICH IS TO BE DEBATED IN PARLIAMENT ON JUNE 5. VAN THIJN AND DANKERT CONTINUE TO ARGUE THAT THE F-16 IS A MUCH MORE SOPHISTICATED AIRCRAFT THAN NEEDED TO FULFILL DUTCH REQUIREMENTS AND THAT A SIMPLER, LESS EXPENSIVE FIGHTER SUCH AS THE BRITISH JAGUAR WOULD BE SUFFICIENT.

3. THE PARLIAMENT HAS ALREADY APPROVED THE DEFENSE BUDGET WHICH INCLUDES FUNDS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE F-104 AND PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL OF THE CABINET'S CHOICE OF THE F-16 IS NOT REQUIRED. ALTHOUGH PARLIAMENT HAS THE POWER TO FORCE THE RESIGNATION OF THE WHOLE CABINET OR OF AN INDIVIDUAL MINISTER BY A VOTE OF NO-CONFIDENCE, THIS IS NOT LIKELY TO OCCUR ON THIS ISSUE SINCE THE OTHER MAJOR PARTIES IN THE PRESENT COALITION, THE CATHOLIC AND ANTI-REVOLUTIONARY PARTIES, AS WELL AS THE PRINCIPAL PARTIES NOW IN OPPOSITION SUPPORT THE CABINET'S DECISION.

4. HOWEVER, THE CONFLICT IS ALREADY CAUSING CONSIDERABLE STRAIN WITHIN THE LABOR PARTY AND PRIME MINISTER DEN UYL'S ABILITIES AS CONCILIATOR WILL AGAIN BE TRIED NEXT WEEK DURING THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE ON THIS ISSUE.  
GOULD

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY PROCUREMENT, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, CABINET, CONSORTIUMS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975THEHA02699  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750188-0007  
**From:** THE HAGUE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t1975057/aaaaagli.tel  
**Line Count:** 89  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 OCT 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14 OCT 2003 by buchandr>; APPROVED <15 JAN 2004 by SmithRJ>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CHOICE OF F-16 REKINDLES DISSENSION WITHIN LABOR PARTY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, NL  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006